

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6813

BILL NUMBER: SB 225

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 1, 2008

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Student Media.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Hershman

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: No Fiscal Impact

Summary of Legislation: This bill provides that media produced primarily by students at a state educational institution are a public forum for expression by the student journalists and editors at the institution and are not subject to prior review by officials of the institution. It provides that student editors of campus media are responsible for determining the content of the media, with an exception for teaching professional standards of grammar and journalism.

The bill prohibits a student media adviser from being disciplined or retaliated against for refusing to suppress protected free expression rights. The bill also allows a student or student media adviser to commence a civil action to obtain appropriate injunctive and declaratory relief, and provides for the awarding of attorney's fees.

The bill defines "campus policy", and allows for discipline for unprotected speech. It specifies that a state educational institution is immune from liability for expressions made in student media.

Effective Date: July 1, 2008.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: State Educational Institutions.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources:

Fiscal Analyst: Chuck Mayfield, 317-232-4825.